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FOURTEENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CONTROLLERS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OF THE

**FIRST SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF
PENNSYLVANIA.**

With their Accounts.



PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

By Garden & Thompson.

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1832.



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REPORT.

THE Controllers of the Public Schools, for the City and County of Philadelphia, in obedience to the provision of the Act of Assembly of March 3d, 1818, present the following "Statement of the Amount of Expenditure and of the Number of Children educated in the Public Schools."

The Lancasterian Schools of the First School District of Pennsylvania, agreeably to returns certified from the respective Sections, at present contain FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND TWO PUPILS, of whom two thousand three hundred and ninety-seven are boys, and two thousand two hundred and five girls, thus distributed among the following schools, viz.

			BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOT
Model School,	-	-	243	170	4
FIRST SECTION.					
Locust Street,	-	-	265	200	4
North Western,	-	-	88	89	1
South Western,	-	-	130	120	2
Lombard street, (coloured,)			203	257	4
SECOND SECTION.					
Northern Liberties,	-	-	412	280	6
Kensington,	-	-	208	256	4
Franklin Street,	-	-	58	51	1
Northern Liberties, (colored)			17	11	
THIRD SECTION.					
Southwark,	-	-	378	308	6
FOURTH SECTION.					
Penn Township,	-	-	233	242	4
NINTH SECTION.					
Moyamensing,	-	-	162	221	3
			<u>2397</u>	<u>2205</u>	<u>460</u>

In those parts of the district where no Lancasterian Schools are by law required, *nin hundred and six children* have attended the ordinary Schools selected by the Directors of each particular section; making, with those above enumerated, an aggregate of FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND EIGHT PUPILS, educated at the public expense since the last annual report.

During the fourteen years which have elapsed since the establishment of this invaluable system

public instruction in the city and county of Philadelphia, FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN CHILDREN have been admitted to our Schools, and availed themselves of the advantages so wisely and liberally extended to them by the existing laws.

From the subjoined accounts, duly audited and reported by the proper authorities, it appears that in the past year this Board has drawn orders on the County Treasurer for the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred and ninety-five dollars and fifteen cents, of which nineteen thousand four hundred and eighty-eight dollars and seventy-seven cents is chargeable to the support of Lancasterian Schools, and eight thousand one hundred and six dollars eighteen cents to expenses of Education in the country sections. During this period the expenditure of the Controllers has been strictly confined to ordinary and unavoidable demands for maintaining and conducting the existing schools. In the approaching season, however, several objects of great interest and importance will demand the attention of the Board, and augment the claims on its funds.

The Directors of the First Section, in pursuance of authority granted by the Controllers, have purchased a lot of ground upon Race street,

west of Broad street, whereon it is intended to erect in the course of the summer, a commodious and substantial building, for the commodation of the North Western Schools which have hitherto been located in a small and inconvenient room, wholly inadequate to the wants of the population so rapidly increasing in that quarter.

In the Second Section also, where the demands upon the system of Public Schools are extensive and rapidly augmenting, the present buildings are insufficient to contain the pupils actually belonging to the different schools, and numerous applicants are for a time necessarily denied admission.

The Controllers are anxious to obviate these difficulties, and to supply rooms and Teachers at a period as early as may be consistent with judicious regard to the extent of annual expenditure. They have accordingly decided upon the establishment of another School in that Section, to which the present occupants of the Franklin Street School may be transferred; and have given the requisite authority to the Directors to procure ground and erect a New School House as early as circumstances may permit.

The subject of the education of "*children under five years of age*" has engaged the earne

tion of the Controllers for a long time, and
 withstanding the difficulties which surround
 has received that deep and serious considera-
 which its great importance merits. To
 commence the business of moral and intellectual
 instruction at the earliest practicable moment,
 and thus to awaken the intellect, to excite, fos-
 and guide the moral principle, before evil
 simple, pernicious habits or corrupt practices
 have polluted the mind, is of incalculable
 interest to all classes of pupils, but immeasura-
 so to those of *our* schools, whose period of
 instruction is at best brief, and often curtailed by
 the necessities of their parents or imperious cir-
 cumstances which prevent by early devotion to
 the acquirement of useful learning. To
 obtain the best mode of infantile instruction,
 to establish a Model School wherein Teachers
 might be qualified to apply and carry out such
 system,—to devise the most eligible mode of
 connecting a series of such Schools with the
 existing establishment, and in accordance with
 existing laws,—all these objects continue to
 claim the serious consideration of the Board.

A plan for infant education has been submit-
 ted to this Board, which appears to unite most,
 if not all, of the requisites for simple and effi-
 cient instruction. This has been accepted and will

require an immediate establishment for its proper development, and the qualification of Teachers for additional schools. To the formation of such a model school during the present season the Controllers look forward with confidence.

The grateful acknowledgments of the Board in behalf of the recipients of this bounty, are due for the liberal bequest of Ten Thousand Dollars by the will of our late munificent fellow citizen Stephen Girard, whose enlightened views and patriotic feeling guided the distribution of princely wealth to great public improvement and to none more signally than to the advancement of Education.

In the midst of the prosperity which continues to attend every department of the Public School System, affording the best encouragement and highest gratification to the gentlemen of the different Boards engaged in its administration, reflecting honour and credit upon the teachers and various agents employed, and cheering the hopes of all who feel interested in the great work of public education,—the Controllers have to regret the resignation of their late valued and respected President ROBERTS VAUX, Esq. whose best feelings and most assiduous labours have been devoted to this important enterprise during the last fourteen years. If the satisfac-

arising from a sense of duty conscientiously
 performed, of disinterested services faithfully
 bestowed for a protracted period in maturing
 and conducting a system of vast public benefit,
 and be enhanced by assurances of the frank and
 cordial esteem and high respect of his colleagues,
 this gentleman has left the Board under circum-
 stances affording subjects for the most gratifying
 recollections.

On behalf of the Board,

THOMAS DUNLAP, *President.*

ATTESTED

M. PETTIT, *Secretary.*

Chamber of the Controllers, }
 Philadelphia February 14th 1832. }

The Controllers of the Public Schools for City and County of Philadelphia, Report, that from the First day of January, 1831, to the Thirty-day of December, 1831, they drew Orders on County Treasurer, agreeable to the Laws authorizing the same, amounting to \$27,595

The whole of which is charged as follows :

LANCASTERIAN DISTRICT.

Model School, Chester Street.

Teachers' Salaries, Stationary, Fuel &c.	\$1,617
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First Section, comprehending
the City of Philadelphia.

Teachers' Salaries, Stationary, Fuel, Rent, &c.	\$5,823 90	
School Furniture,	43 96	
	<hr/>	5,867

Second Section, comprehending
part of the N. Liberties
and Kensington.

Teachers' Salaries, Stationary, Fuel, &c.	\$3,578 62	
Real Estate,	159 81	
	<hr/>	3,738

Third Section, comprehending
Southwark.

Teachers' Salaries, Stationary, Fuel, &c.	1,988	
	<hr/>	13,212

Brought forward,

13,212 52

Fourth Section, comprehending Penn Township.

Teachers' Salaries, Stationary,

Fuel, &c.

\$1,509 96

Real Estate,

21 76

 1,531 72

Fifth Section, comprehending Moyamensing.

Teachers' Salaries, Stationary,

Fuel, Rent, &c.

\$2,176 56

School Furniture,

86 57

 2,263 13

General Expenses.

Secretary's Salary, Advertising,

School Books, and other sup-

plies, incidental expenses, &c.

2,481 60

 \$19,488 97

The Controllers further report, that for that
part of the County in which Lancasterian
schools are not required by law, orders were
drawn on the County Treasurer, as follows:

Second Section,

Part of Northern Liberties and of

Kensington,

\$1,483 92

Fourth Section,

Part of Penn Township,

607 79

 2,091 71

Brought forward,

2,09

Fifth Section,Comprehending the townships of
Oxford, Lower Dublin, Byberry
and Moreland,

1,303

Sixth Section,Comprehending the townships of
Germantown, Roxborough, and
Bristol, (Germantown having a
Lancasterian School,)

2,297

Seventh Section,Comprehending the townships of
Blockley and Kingsessing,

1,644

Eighth Section,Comprehending the township of
Passyunk,

767

\$8,106

RECAPITULATION.**LANCASTERIAN SYSTEM,**

School Expenses,

\$19,176 87

Real Estate and School Furniture

312 10

OUTER SECTIONS,

19,488 9

8,106 1

\$27,593 1

**CONTROLLERS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
FOR 1832.**

President.

1. THOMAS DUNLAP,

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| . Wm. W. Fisher, | 8. Jonathan Thomas, |
| . John Steele, | 9. Joseph Bockius, |
| . James Gowen, | 10. Evan W. Thomas, Jr. |
| . Joseph Warner, | 11. Alexander Parker, |
| . John Oakford, | 12. Charles Norris. |
| . Morton McMichael, | |

Secretary—T. M. PETTIT.

SITUATION OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL HOUSES.

Model School.—Chester Street, between Eighth and Ninth and Race and Vine Streets.

Teachers.—*John L. Rhees, Susan M. Ustick*

Locust Street.—Corner of Locust and Twelfth Streets.

Teachers.—*William S. Cleavinger, Eliza R. Eastburn*

North Western (in City.)—Corner of Schuylkill Seventh and Race Streets.

Teachers.—*Hiram Ayres, Martha C. Hallowell*

South Western (in City.)—Spruce Street, near Rittenhouse Square.

Teachers.—*Samuel J. Withey, Eliza Bateman*

Northern Liberties.—Third, near Brown Street.

Teachers.—*John M. Coleman, Frances R. Eastburn*

Franklin Street.—East of Fourth Street.

Teacher.—*Louisa Bedford*

Southwark.—Catherine Street, between Third and Fourth Streets.

Teachers.—*Samuel F. Watson, Eliza McLeod*

Moyamensing.—West of Passyunk Road.

Teachers.—*Peter McGowen, Ann Dolby*

Penn Township.—Buttonwood Street, near Eleventh.

Teachers.—*B. E. Chamberlin, Julia A. Byrne*

Kensington.—Malborough Street.

Teachers.—*Henry W. Chadwick, Elizabeth W. Beechy*

Lombard Street.—For coloured children; Lombard Street near Sixth.

Teachers.—*James M. Bird, Maria C. Hutton*

Apple Street.—For coloured children; Northern Liberties.

Teacher.—*William Sherman*

at a meeting of "The Controllers of the Public Schools for the City and County of Philadelphia," held on the 19th day of December, 1831, THOMAS DUNLAP in the chair, a communication was received from ROBERTS VAUX, tendering his resignation as President of the Board.

The resignation being accepted, and an answer to his letter unanimously adopted by the Board, it was

Resolved, That a copy of the communication from Mr. Vaux, and the answer of this Board, be forwarded to the Board of Directors of each Section of the First School District of Pennsylvania, and that the same be published.

On motion the Board proceeded to the election of a President; when Thomas Dunlap was duly chosen.

From the minutes.

T. M. PETTIT, Secretary.

of the Controllers of the Public Schools for the City and County of Philadelphia.

You will recollect, gentlemen, that when I last entered upon the duties of a member, and accepted again the responsibilities of President of the Board of Control, my design to retire from both those stations towards the close of the term of my election, was publicly communicated. In accordance with the purpose then deliberately formed, I now resign the trusts which you and your predecessors, the representatives of our fellow citizens of the First School District of Pennsylvania, were pleased to confer upon me annually, from the organization of the existing system of public education through a period of nearly fourteen years.

On ceasing to assist in the administration of the laws that so wisely provide free instruction, and for the successful operation of which I have always felt much solicitude, it is a precious consolation to know that the institution has dispensed, and still distributes invaluable benefits to our youth.

Long and attentive observation of the influence of this judi-

cious and liberal plan, assures me that the best interests of society are intimately connected with its duration and expansion to meet the future wants of the City and County of Philadelphia.

I part from you, gentlemen, impressed with no ordinary sentiments of regard. With some of you I have been harmoniously devoted in the prosecution of this interesting work almost from its commencement. The retrospect of my intercourse with my colleagues as well as with the teachers, and various other agents attached to the extensive establishment confided to government, furnishes no instance of the interruption of kindest personal respect. These are to me gratifying reflections.

Finally, I beg you to accept my affectionate wishes for your individual happiness. Abundant good must, I am sure, continue to flow, from your faithful official labors.

ROBERTS VAUX

PHILADELPHIA, 12th Month 19th, 1831.

Chamber of the Controllers, Dec. 19th, 1831.

ROBERTS VAUX, Esq.

Dear Sir,—The Controllers of the Public Schools for the City and County of Philadelphia perceive with sincere regret, by your letter of this date, that you adhere to the resolution announced at the opening of the present term, to resign your seat, and that of the Presidency with which it has been the pride and pleasure of the Board, during the last fourteen years, annually to invest you.

A long course of faithful, judicious and unremitting attention to the interests of the Public School System of this district, prompted by the purest motives and sustained by unwearied zeal, entitles you to the respectful gratitude of the community for which you have successfully laboured, whilst a frank and dignified intercourse, and an independent discharge of your duties on this Board, have conciliated and secured the esteem and attachment of your colleagues.

ur system of public instruction, so admirably adapted to the
 ts and circumstances of this portion of the state, promises in
 present matured organization every advantage which the uni-
 al diffusion of free education can effect;—to its permanence
 faithful administration our patriotic citizens look forward
 confidence and hope, and your colleagues feel convinced
 your important participation in originating and conducting
 invaluable work will long continue among the most gratify-
 eminiscences of your life.

endering to you, sir, sincere assurances of their high regard
 most affectionate esteem and respect, the Controllers beg
 to accept their cordial wishes for your prosperity and happi-

By order of the Board of Controllers.

T. DUNLAP, President

M. PETTIT, *Secretary.*



